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Soviets embark on new of anti-American

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The Bulletin has learned that a new Soviet covert action campaign on a series of forgeries of U.S. official documents suggests to Europeans that they are facing a new holocaust because of their relations with the U.S.

A Reagan Administration source familiar with such campaigns told the Bulletin, "There is no doubt that if U.S.-Soviet Relations deteriorate further, there will be more anti-U.S. propaganda and covert action of this type."

The Soviet Union already spends several billion dollars a year in anti-U.S. covert action and propaganda — the world's largest such effort. And this does not include Soviet-controlled propaganda and covert action efforts on the part of Cuba, East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and other Soviet bloc intelligence services.

Last year Central Intelligence Agency Deputy Director for Operations John McMahon testified before Congress in closed committee session that the Soviets were spending from \$3 billion to \$4 billion a year on anti-U.S. covert action and propaganda.

"The Soviets have established a worldwide network of agents, organizations, and technical facilities" to implement these programs, McMahon told the House Intelligence Committee.

"That network is second to none in comparison to the major world powers in its size and effectiveness."

According to McMahon and other sources, such covert "active measures", as distinguished from the normal intelligence collection and counterintelligence functions of the KGB, have included:

— Written and oral "disinformation". In May 1978, Soviet Ambassador to Zambia Solodovnikov warned Zambian President Kaunda falsely that Soviet intelligence had learned British and American intelligence services were plotting to overthrow him. Kaunda was advised against making a trip to Britain and the U.S., since his departure was to precipitate the coup.

Solodovnikov said falsely that the U.S. and Britain had used a similar plan to overthrow Nkrumah of Ghana.

— Forgeries and false rumors. A bogus U.S. Army field manual was cited by the Soviets as proof that the CIA was secretly manipulating the terrorist Red Brigades who murdered Italian leader Aldo Moro.

This happened after it was reported that the Red Brigades had received training in Czechoslovakia and had ties with the Soviet Union.

"Whenever the KGB is caught red-handed in an outrageous action that threatens the Soviet Union with serious embarrassment," wrote Reader's Digest Senior Editor John Barron in his book *KGB: the Secret Work of Soviet Secret Agents*, "it hurriedly commences disinformation operations to divert world attention from the event. Frequently the KGB simply accuses others of doing precisely what it has been shown to have done."

The forged field manual used in the Moro case also was used by the Soviets to try to prove that U.S. military and intelligence liaisons abroad are used as cover to penetrate and manipulate friendly foreign governments.

— "Gray" or unattributed propaganda. When the Soviets want to create an aura of authenticity around an otherwise implausible position, they use a system of press placements through non-Soviet journalists recruited to make sure Soviet articles surface in the local foreign press.

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